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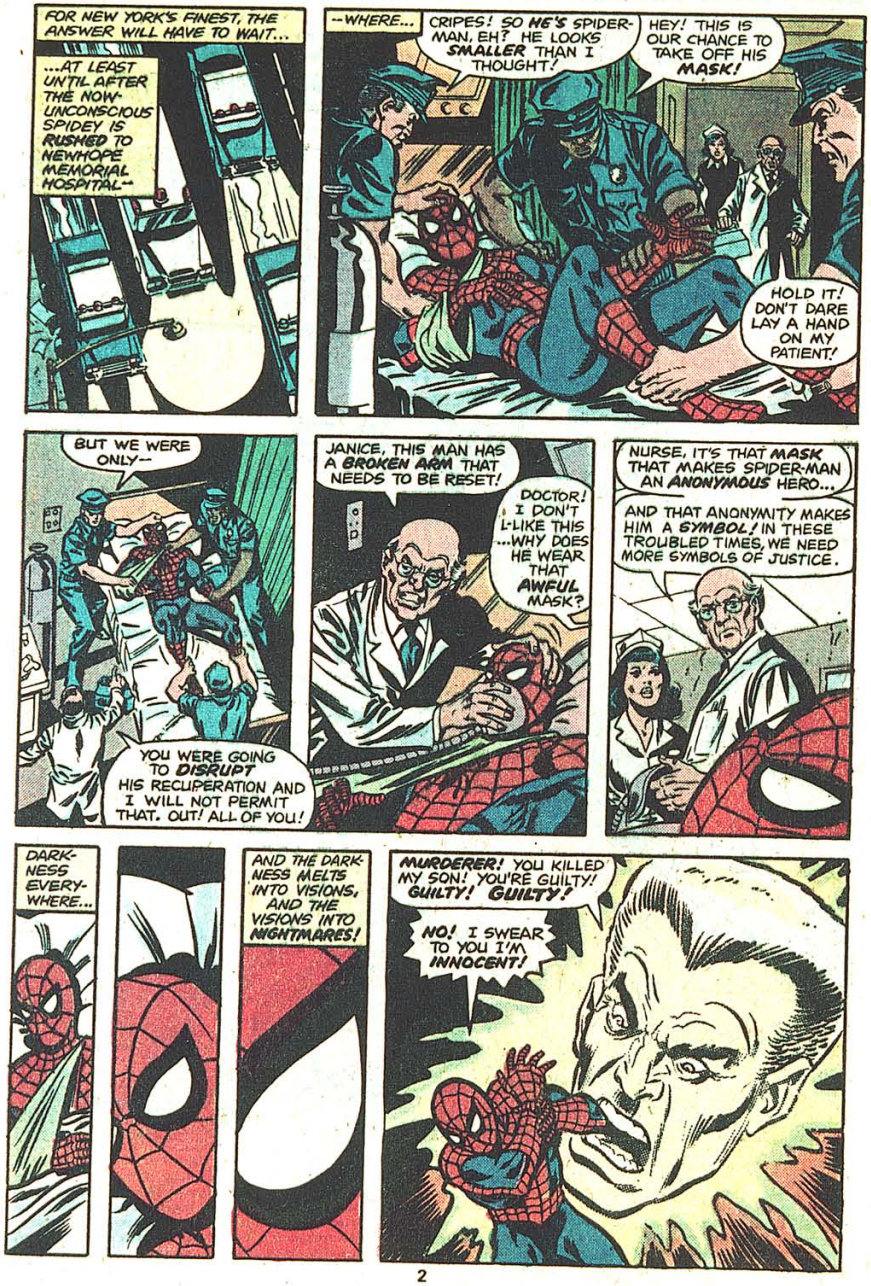

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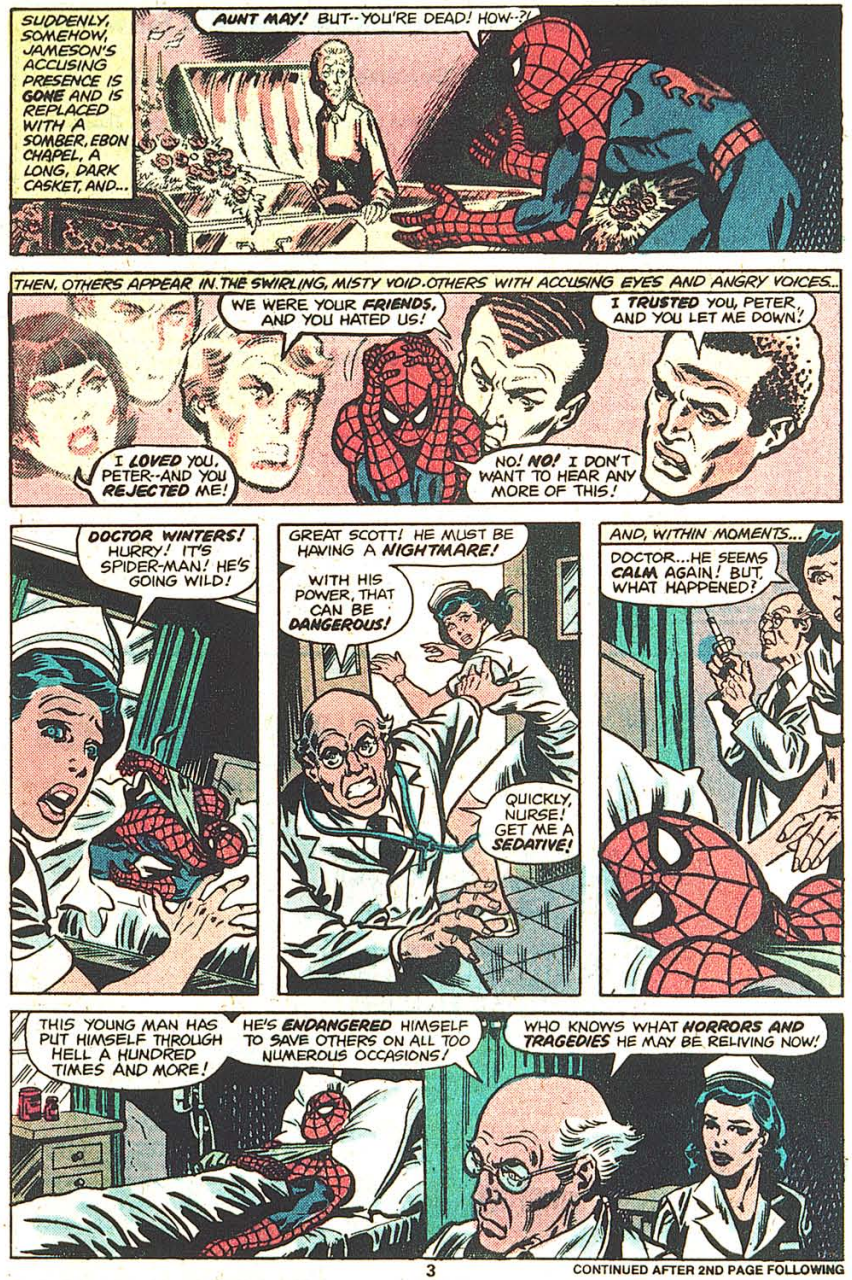

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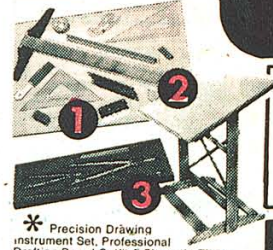

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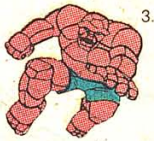
1. **Daffy Duck's** fast-footed friend Speedy Gonzales is a
(a) ☐ Disco Dancer
(b) ☐ Rollerskater
(c) ☐ Roadrunner
(d) ☐ Mouse

2. On **Casper and the Angels**, a new TV show, Casper is a
(a) ☐ Garbage collector
(b) ☐ Dogcatcher
(c) ☐ Circus clown
(d) ☐ Guardian Angel



3. In **Fred and Barney Meet the Thing**, the huge orange-colored Thing turns into a
(a) ☐ Robot
(b) ☐ Girl
(c) ☐ Mailman
(d) ☐ Teenager

4. On Saturday morning, Sept. 8, **Fred and Barney** get stranded on an island with a
(a) ☐ Mermaid
(b) ☐ Ice cream cone
(c) ☐ Werewolf
(d) ☐ Giant Lizard

5. Curly Neal, a famous basketball player who stars in the **Super Globetrotters** turns into a
(a) ☐ Football star
(b) ☐ Rock singer
(c) ☐ Basketball
(d) ☐ The President of the U.S.

6. **The New Shmoo** looks like a
(a) ☐ Chubby rock
(b) ☐ Your sister
(c) ☐ A furry bear
(d) ☐ Another Shmoo

7. **Flash Gordon** is a super-hero who becomes stranded
(a) ☐ On the New Jersey coast
(b) ☐ On a raft
(c) ☐ On the Planet Mongo
(d) ☐ In a candy factory

8. The world famous **Godzilla** is a
(a) ☐ Giant frog
(b) ☐ Green ape
(c) ☐ Flying fish
(d) ☐ Big reptile

9. "See **Jonny Quest!**" A quest is
(a) ☐ A search
(b) ☐ A frisbee
(c) ☐ Someone who comes to dinner
(d) ☐ An inquiry

10. The one-and-only **Jetsons** are
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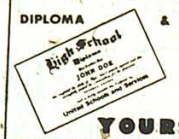

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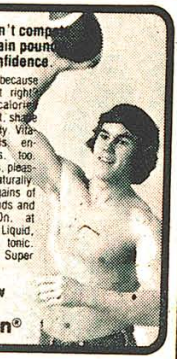

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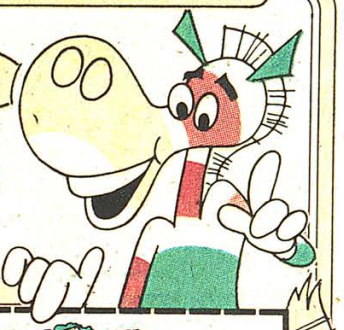

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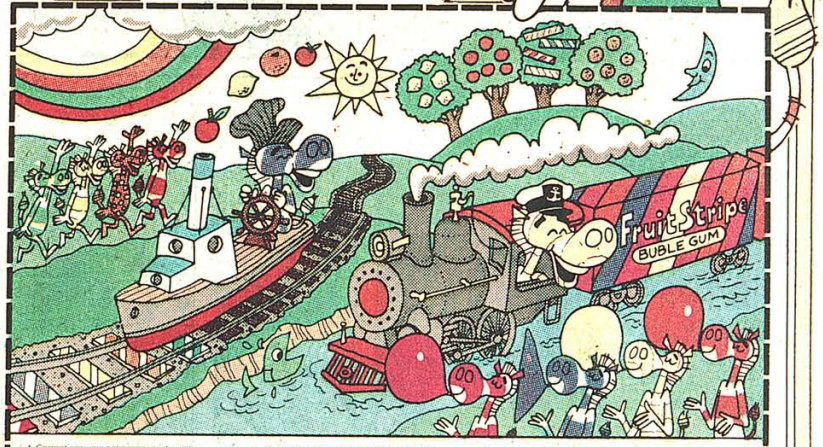

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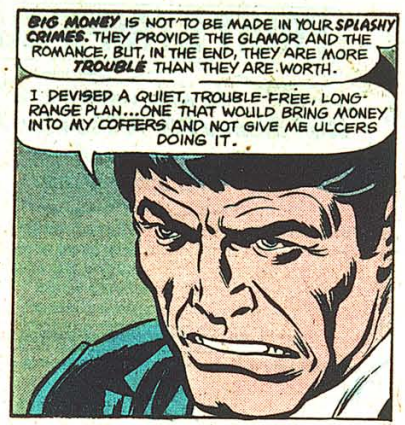

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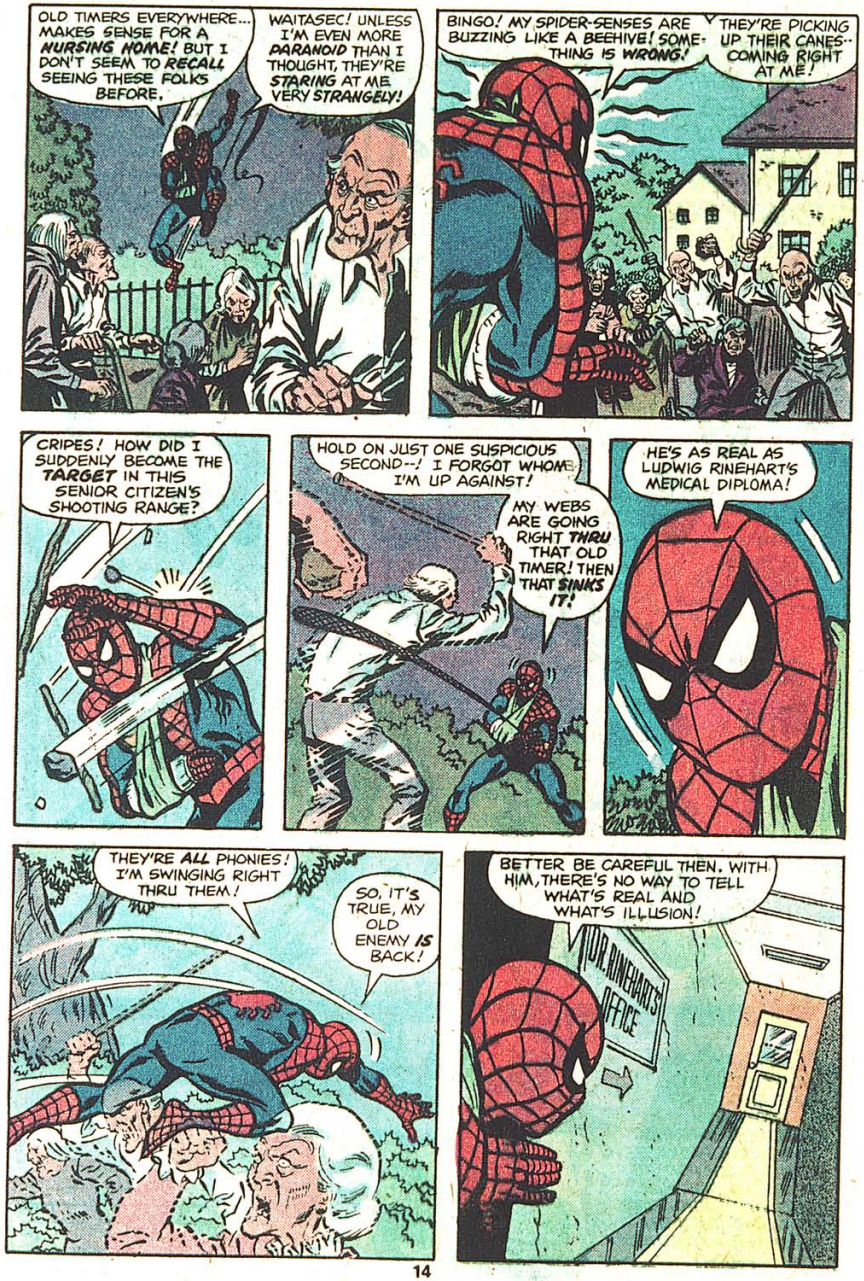

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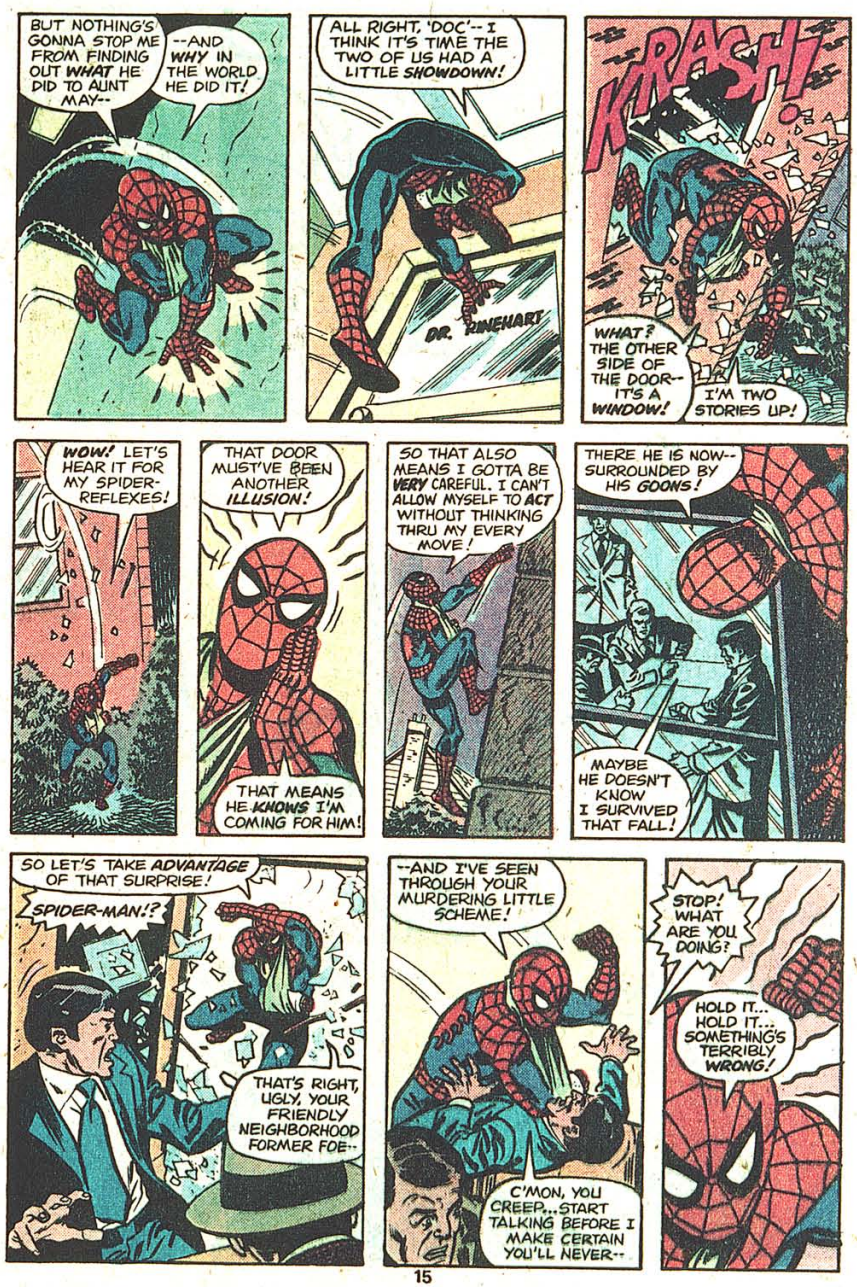

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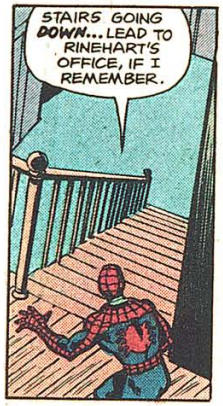

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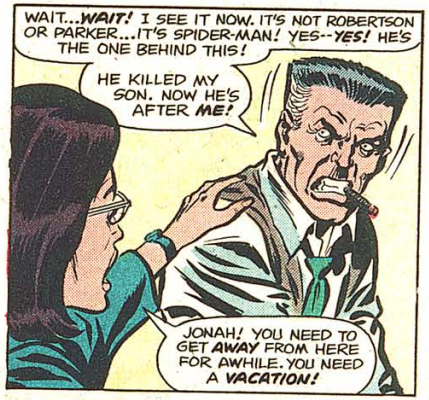

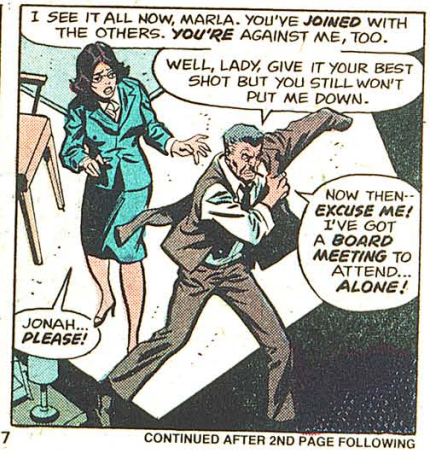

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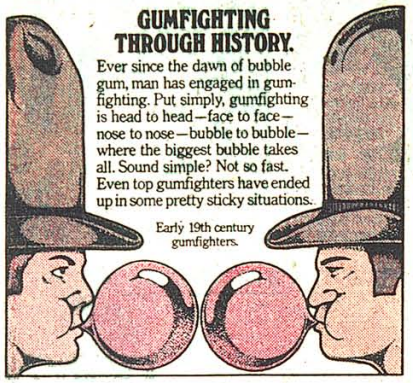

Early 19th century gumfighters.

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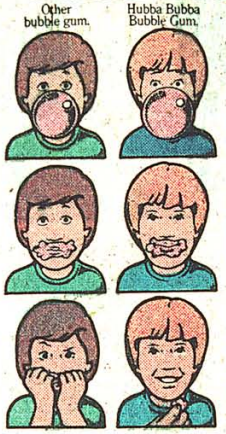

The kid on the left is blowing bubbles with another gum. The kid on the right is blowing bubbles with new Hubba Bubba. Note the size of that Hubba Bubba bubble.

As you see, a sticky situation is developing on the left. But not on the right.

Notice the Hubba Bubba bubble comes right off the face and goes back in the mouth. As for the bubble gum on the left, those are the breaks.

To be sure you're getting the genuine article (Hubba Bubba in original or mint flavors), study the picture below very carefully. Then repeat: Hubba Bubba—Hubba Bubba—Hubba Bubba—Hubba Bubba—Hubba Bubba—Hubba Bubba.

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After you have mastered this basic gumfighting technique, try it out on someone. Remember for a successful gumfight, be sure your opponent is *not* chewing Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum—the soft and juicy bubble gum with amazing no-stick bubbles.

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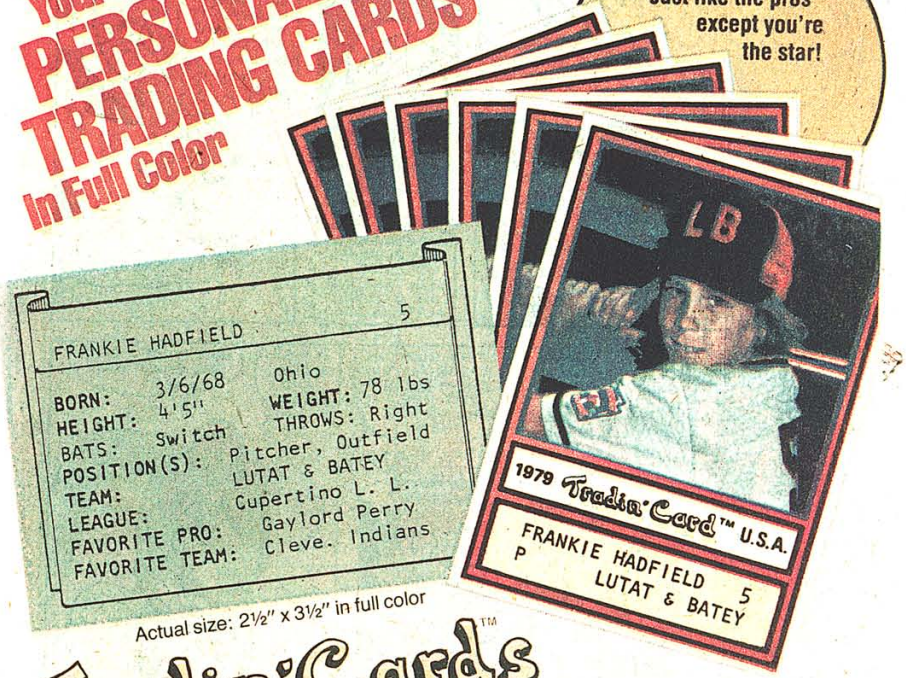

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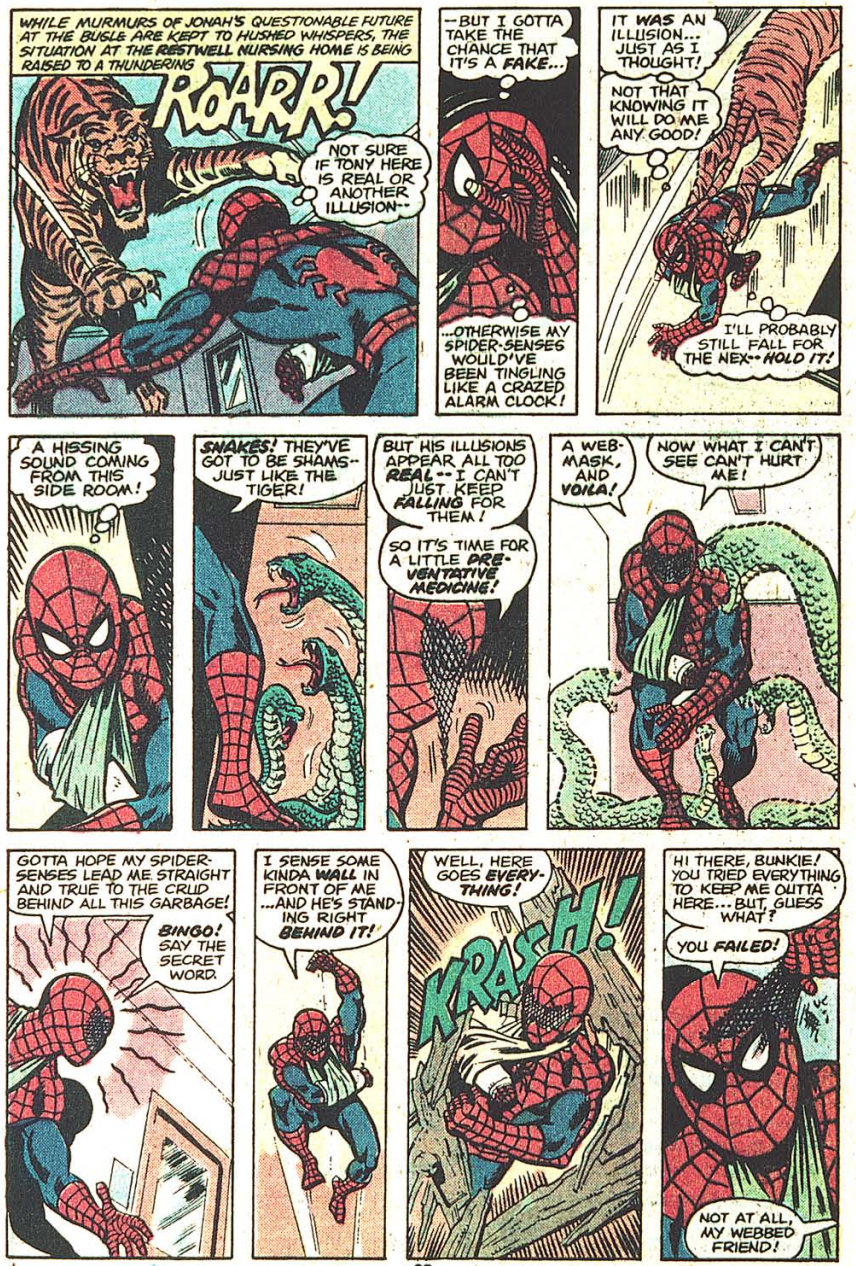

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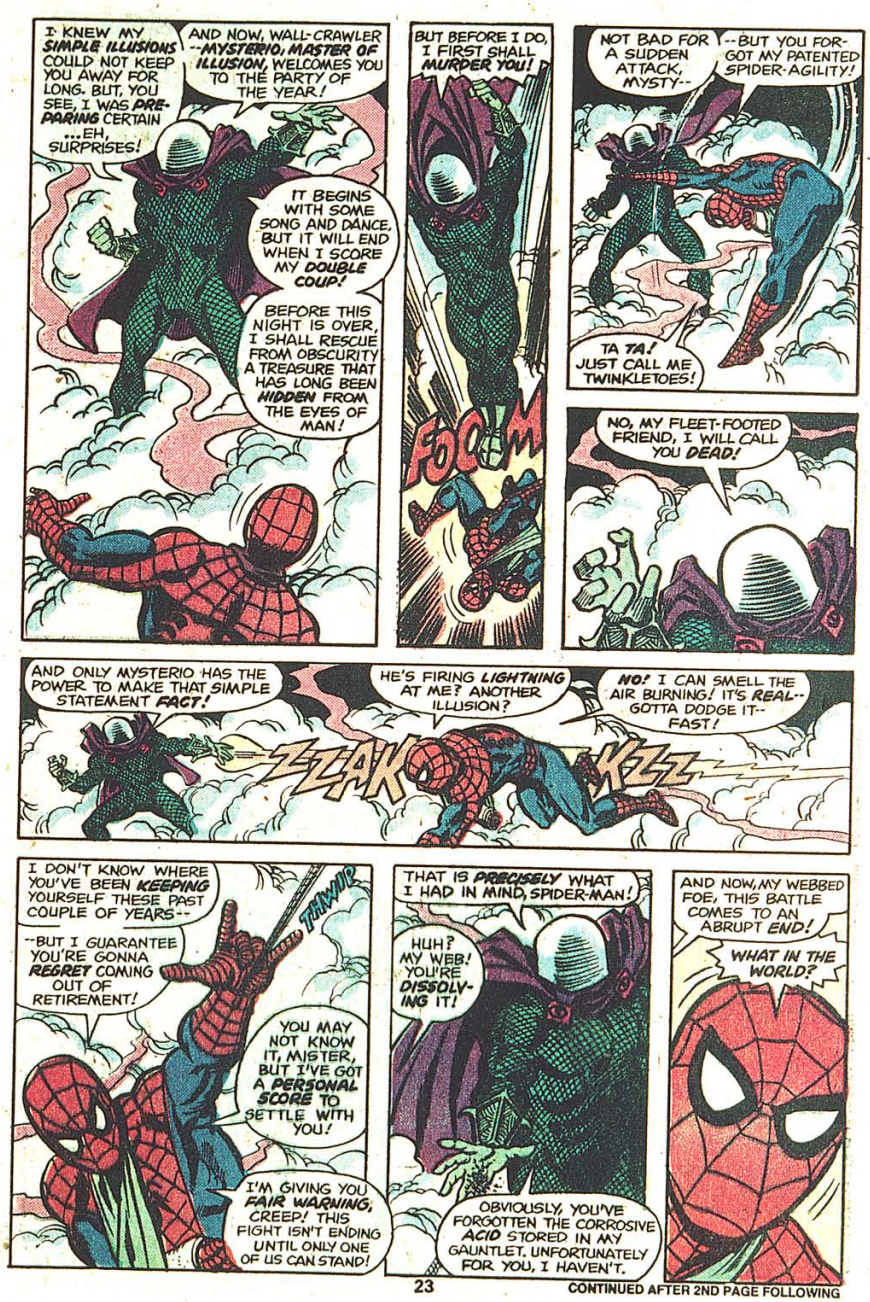

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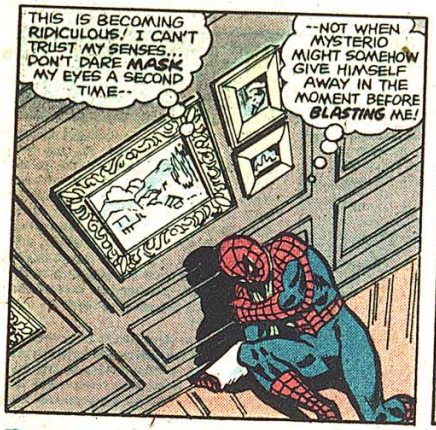

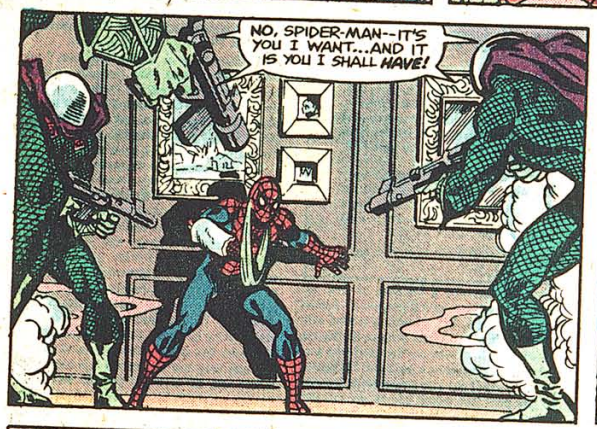

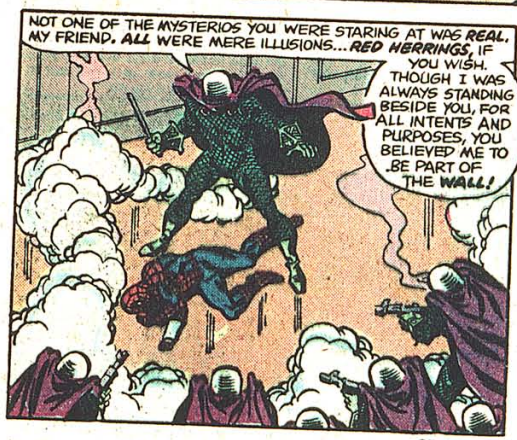

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STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay, gang, gather round! Don't wantcha to miss a word of this! Here's the first hint of what you'll find in the super-sensational, soon-to-be-unveiled, premiere issue of EPIC, the latest and possibly greatest magazine mighty Marvel, or anyone, has ever unleashed upon the panting public!

Even as these wondrous words are being breathlessly penned, Senior Editors Rick Marschall and Jim Shooter are lining up the greatest names in illustrated fantasy to launch our first issue! Here's a quick sample, to whet your appetite...

We're planning to introduce an exotic new feature by the widely-acclaimed *Rich Corben*, who'll be gracing our pages for the very first time! Also making their dazzling debut in a Marvel mag will be the doubly legendary *Brothers Hildebrandt*, whose sheer artistry will make you want to leap up and cheer! In addition, we'll reintroduce many of our most gifted alumni; luminaries such as *Jim Starlin*, whose "Metamorphosis Odyssey" merely concerns itself with the destruction of the universe; and *Ernie Colon*, who'll show you just how glamorous a magnificent illustrated strip can be; and *Steranko*, who returns to Marvel, scene of some of his greatest triumphs, to offer the first feature he's done in years; and *Bob Larkin*, whose torrid and terrific tale of a very "special" test alert will leave you gasping; and *Craig Russell*, who toys with your emotions as he lets you meet a somewhat different type of dragon; and *John Buscema*, who once again teams up with yours truly to present a brand new, sparkling saga of the Silver Surfer as only Johnny can!

But if you think that's all, hah! Didn't I tell you there never was, and never will be a mag like EPIC? Look what else we have in store...

A breath-taking preview of unpublished material from the wonders of "Weird World"! Possibly some wild pages by the dynamic European writer/artist *Druillet*, with whose Italian publisher we're negotiating! A thriller about death preceding life by none other than *Marv Wolfman* and *Gene Colan!* A time-warp tale with a terrific twist by *Archie Goodwin* and *Bob Wakelin!* Also, fantasy masterworks by the greatest names from Europe, Asia, South America, and the far-flung underground; names old and new, such as *Steve Bissette, Art Suydam, Joe Jusko, George Bush, Ray Rue, Rick Veitch,* and *Carl Potts!*

Finally, I oughtta mention that I've heard both Jim and Rick huddling with *Mike Kaluta, Neal Adams, Howie Chaykin, Jeff Jones,* and dozens of other long-time greats, so there'll probably be even more artistic plums in store for you when EPIC debuts!

Whew! After all that, if you still can't figure out why we say EPIC is destined to be the greatest mag of all time, forget the whole thing! We can always go back to Howard the Duck!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! It has been postulated by our critics that we at the House of Ideas have trouble counting beyond nine, since we need one finger to count with. It has also been said that we *hate* calendars, since they remind us of our arch enemy, the production schedule. Well, all we can say to that is, "oh, yeah?" Just to prove we know our Nones from our Ides we got together the brand new 1980 MARVEL CALENDAR entitled "The Occult World of Doctor Strange." It's chock full of dazzling pin-ups featuring the Master of the Mystic Arts in the most dramatic moment of his career, battling his deadliest foes, meeting Eternity face-to-sort-of-face, and more. Our personal favorite is the shot of Doc just relaxing at home – wait'll you see it! Besides the beautiful art, this calendar is stuffed with information about Doctor Strange, his friends, his enemies, and even *us*, the guys who produce his mind-boggling adventures! We figured that pictures of our ugly pans cleverly inserted on our birthdays would add to the macabre atmosphere of the thing. Best of all it's only $4.95 in better bookstores everywhere, through those nice folks at Simon & Schuster. And so what if they gave us a little help getting the months in order? We would have figured it out eventually anyway! Um, what comes after Octobruary?

ITEM! While you're in the bookstore seeking out your very own calendar, you may run across the latest two offerings in the Marvel Novel series from Pocket Books. One of them features none other than the Amazing SPIDER-MAN versus the Kingpin in a thriller called *Crime Campaign.* The other novel features the AVENGERS, the X-MEN, DAREDEVIL, and the HULK, each in their own feature length adventure! Each novel is a bargain at $1.95, and is absolutely guaranteed not to rust, bust, or run around the garage at night! So *buy* them, already!

ITEM! Right in the middle of the usual chaos one day, TOM BATIUK popped by to visit the Bullpen. Tom, as astute syndicated strip followers know, is the man responsible for FUNKY WINKERBEAN! Delighted with the opportunity to hobnob with a fellow cartoonist, the beleaguered bullpenners left the day's worries behind for a few pleasant moments. Thanks for coming by, Tom!

ITEM! Speaking of Toms, our own Tom Orzechowski, World Class Heavyweight Letterer, recently designed and rendered his first album cover! The disc is called *Hellfield* by the group of the same name, and with Tom's dazzling cover on it, it's sure to be a chart topper. We hear that the music is good, too!

ITEM! Lots of special happenings are thundering your way in this month's menage of Marvel Masterpieces! In SPIDER-WOMAN #20, for instance, the most cataclysmic confrontation since Napoleon vs Wellington takes place. You guessed it, friends, this issue Spider-Woman meets SPIDER-MAN and the world will never be the same! Meanwhile, in the pages of AVENGERS #189, Hawkeye goes it alone against a way-out winged villainess named *Deathbird!* Those of you who demanded that Hawkeye be given his chance to shine, don't dare miss this one...unless, for some reason, you can only buy *one* comic this month, in which case let nothing prevent you from picking up IRON MAN #128. This issue features a tale entitled "Demon in a Bottle," a moving, powerful, sensitive story that will be remembered and talked about years from now. We won't tell you more than that. *Please* buy this issue, or borrow it but somehow, somewhere, get your hands on it and *read* it. We think you'll be glad you did.

Stan Lee "WARRIORS OF THE SHADOW REALM"
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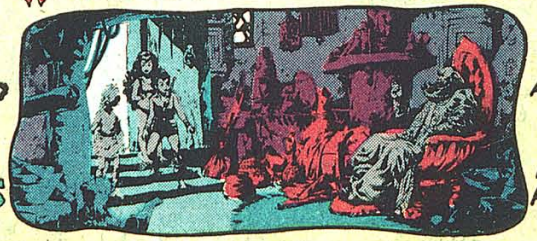
OF MARVEL'S FANTASTIC WEIRDWORLD EPIC
IN THIS ISSUE:
THE DARKLENS GEMS!



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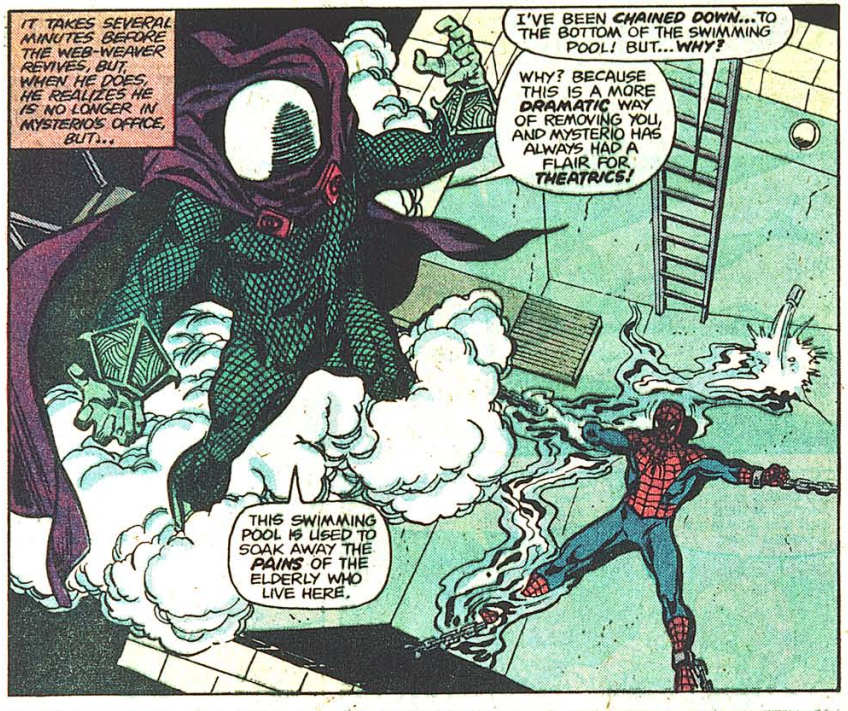

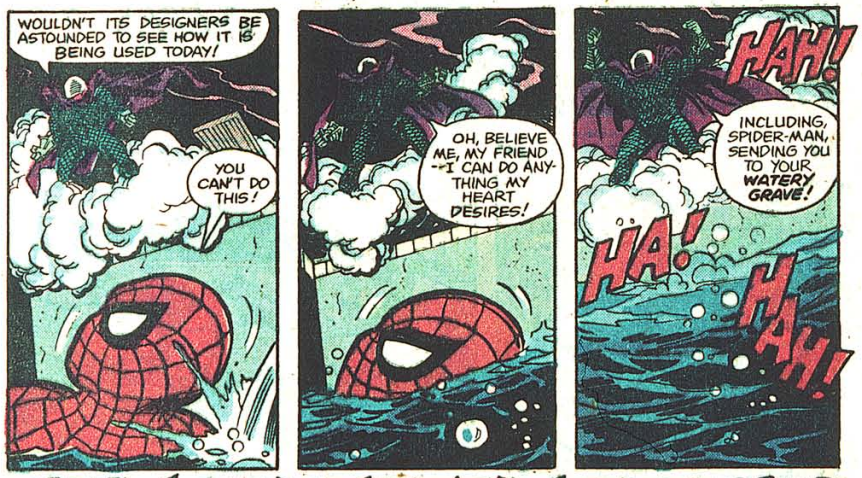

NEXT ISSUE: NOW YOU SEE ME! NOW YOU DIE!

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THE SPIDER'S WEB

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

MARV WOLFMAN
EDITOR
MARK GRUENWALD
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Marv, Keith, Jim and John,

SPIDER-MAN #193 was outstanding. Why? Because this issue marks a breakthrough for Marv Wolfman and for all Spider-Man fans. I really don't want to get bogged down with sloppy superlatives, so if you'll bear with me, I'll explain.

To begin with, I have not read an issue of SPIDER-MAN so absorbing and intense in six years. I feel about this particular story the way I felt about the Englehart CAPTAIN AMERICA and AVENGERS and Marv's DRACULA. Whereas Marv has revived my interest in Spider-Man in the past few issues, this issue was a turning point. I've liked other writers' Spider-Man, but in the same sense that I used to like Whoppers. In two minutes, the taste is gone.

Everything came together beautifully in SPIDER-MAN #193, and so naturally. Does Jameson know Spider-Man's identity? Will he fire Robbie? Will Ned hate Peter for life? Will Pete punch out Ned? Plus a sub-plot from #170 that everyone thought forgotten—and the original burglar who started it all! And the Fly, who never looked meaner! (Sorry. I got carried away.)

Although this issue brought with it all the excitement of the Lee-Ditko days (and have you noticed how so many people are talking about Lee and Ditko of late?), it did not imitate in the slightest. Originality was the hallmark of the story. I'm glad to hear that Doc Ock is returning, and I have to admit I haven't the slightest idea what you're planning for #200. The main reason I'm so happy is that you've proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is *not* a book to rest on its laurels.

Some of the plot lines seem to be leading to the possibility that Pete may chuck his costume again. Please don't let him. That plot's so worn out already that it becomes less convincing with continued use. Also, let's see the return of some of Spider-Man's less visible (at least, these days) foes, like The Vulture, The Kingpin, and The Lizard. Much continued good luck, Marv, and I hope you continue in the direction you've begun in this issue. Shalom.

Bruce Weintraub
68-36 108th St.
Forest Hills, NY 11375

Dear Marv, Keith, and Jim,

No! No! No! No! No! ! ! I can't let you do it! You're stretching Peter's bad luck way too far! It's bad enough putting Aunt May in a nursing home! But you have to make it worse! Mary Jane's dumped him! Ned Leeds has threatened to kill him! He was fired from the Bugle! To top it all off, the crook from the now-historic AMAZING FANTASY #15 is out to kill Aunt May! ! ! You're ruining Peter's life! I'd like to see some improvements in his life fast! How about Spider-Man falling in love instead of Peter!? How about the Daily Globe offering Peter a higher salary!? How about having Spider-Man save Aunt May!? Whatever you do, do something good! Please don't do anything worse!!!!!!

Quentin Hidalgo
1222 E. Wilson Ave.
Orange, CA 92667

Dear Marv,

For months now, I've been meaning to write but just never got around to it. What got me to write this time was the sudden change that appeared in your writing.

A change for the better, I hope.

Marv, your stories have always pleased me as far as the main plots, but when it comes to sub-plots, your knack for writing seemed to disappear. SPIDER-MAN #193, on the other hand, was beautiful. All of a sudden, sub-plots were hurled at me from all directions: Aunt May's plight, the unexpected reappearance of Uncle Ben's killer, K.J. Clayton and The Daily Globe, Jonah Jameson's thirst for revenge, Peter's suspicion that Jameson knows that he's Spider-Man, Ned Leeds' arrival in New York, the Peter/Mary Jane/Betty love triangle. . . I can go on for days. I just wanted to say that I think it's great. Keep up the good work, and keep Pollard and Mooney as a team. This issue and last contained some really fantastic artwork.

As a final word, I leave you with this request: please bring back Doctor Octopus.

Don Hailer
28 Forest Rd.
Glen Rock, NJ 07452

And this month's favorite family fun game is, apparently, second-guessing the plot twists in Spider-Man. Marv isn't talking much, except to say that some of you are hitting close to the mark, some are way off-target (such as the reader who supposed that #200 will feature the death of Aunt May), but even those of you who know *what* Marv is going to do will be thrilled and amazed by *how* he does it. Marv, Keith and Sal have been working to make sure, as correspondent Bruce Weintraub suggests, that Spider-Man doesn't rest on its laurels. And, in answer to your requests, The Kingpin returns this issue, Mysterio is back next issue, and Doc Ock fans can follow his adventures in both the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL and the SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL this summer, as well as in the Spider-Man novel, MAYHEM IN MANHATTAN, co-written by Marv and Lively Len Wein, and available at newsstands and bookshops everywhere. And, before we forget, be sure to pick up the *new* Spider-Man novel, CRIME CAMPAIGN, by Peerless Paul Kupperberg, in which J. Jonah Jameson runs for mayor, Silvermane and The Kingpin fight for control of the NYC rackets, and Bob Larkin provides a fantastic cover. For other surprises, keep following SPIDER-MAN, beginning in 30 days with the return of Mysterio. Be there or be square.

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